



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
JAURÈSGASSE 3, 1030 VIENNA

Statement

By

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Before

The sixty-fifth session of the COPUOS

Agenda Item 12: Space and Climate Change

1-10 June 2022

Vienna

“In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful”

Mr. Chairman;

Distinguished delegates;

Since the beginning of global warming phenomenon as a result of climate change, Iran, like many other countries, is experiencing rising temperatures as well as declining precipitation. Rising temperatures will intensify evaporation and transpiration and consequently, countries would face more shortages of water resources in the near future. Similarly, snow covered areas may reduce consistent with temperature rising. Such issues may lead to an anthropogenic-based climate change, which has considerable negative socioeconomic impacts on agricultural and industrial sectors. Moreover, this phenomenon affects water resources, public hygiene, and environmental issues.

Mr. Chairman;

Iran is a very vulnerable country to climate change and will experience an increase of 2.6 °C in mean temperatures and a 35% decline in precipitation in the next decades based on the latest scientific research. Climate change and global warming affect precipitation and extreme events such as floods and droughts. As surface water levels and groundwater levels drop, dams will gradually lose their function, and the status of aquifers will shift from a critical state to a supercritical state, and this has made the phenomenon of climate change from a luxury issue to a very serious pivotal one.

Mr. Chairman;

Nowadays, spin-offs from space technologies and satellite services are on the front lines of fighting climate change challenges. In this vein, it is essential to estimate the temporal and spatial fluctuations of meteorological parameters such as temperature, precipitation, relative humidity and etc. Satellites, as part of the global networks to monitor climate change and its impacts, offer an acute and matchless perspective in terms of Earth observations.

In 2021, Iran applied space technologies to deliver sustainable benefits to the public in order to respond to the global challenges such as climate change. To combat climate change, Iran generated a wealth of products and services based on the acquisition of near real-time and archived data from a multitude of meteorological and remote sensing satellites, served and processed by several public and private institutions. In addition to providing relevant data and information, this system will support decision making in order to preparedness for disaster risk reduction and mitigation of climate change impacts.

At this time, specific satellite-based services are produced on a daily basis. The presented information includes: flood monitoring, water body and snow coverage assessment, forest fire danger rating system and hotspot monitoring. Iran also uses space applications in research and development of an information system for drought analysis purposes, land cover monitoring and seawater conditions related to the global warming.

Mr. Chairman;

A successful combat on climate change challenges greatly benefits from the sharing of international space-based resources. Iran is of the view that UNOOSA as a unique UN body dedicated to the peaceful uses of outer space should support this target through international contributions in accessing the benefits of space-based technologies. Moreover, further research and development should consider novel methods to explore new ways and means in order to overcome the increased risk of climate change impacts. Iran is fully prepared and willing to support and improve efforts related to climate adaptation for combatting climate change.

I thank you Mr. Chairman